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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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WEATHER FORECAST
OVERCAST.
Barometer 29.71.

May 31, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 81 3 p.m. 85
Humidity 89 70

May 31, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 79 3 p.m. 85
Humidity 90 78

7957 日二十月四

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1918.

五拜禮 號一卅月五英港香

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN FRANCE.

MORE DETAILS OF THE FIGHTING.

French Compelled to Evacuate Soissons.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters, telegraphing on May 29, says:—The expansion of the enemy's wings enabled him to bring his right to within a short distance of Soissons, while the left reached an alignment at which it forms practically a semi-circle around Rheims. Last night the position the Franco-British were holding on the extreme right of the line became difficult. They were under fire from three sides, from the old German line between Courcy and Rheims and from the new lines which the Germans had established in passing them to the south, and so they are now obliged to face east, north and west. We are entering upon a critical phase of the battle, but the issue is awaited calmly. Our reserves are hastening up. The moral of our men is superb. The Germans had the choice of the point of attack and were able to concentrate masses against a sector thinly held. The choice of the real line of resistance will be ours. The new battle is spreading over the ground of the Battle of the Marne, where the enemy's triumphant rush was broken in September, 1914, and the omens are good.

Role of the British Divisions.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters, telegraphing on the evening of May 29, says:—Regarding the role of the British Divisions during the first two days of the Aisne fighting, we had four Divisions which held the front from Craonne to Hermercourt. On the right the 21st Division was in liaison with a French Division. Our left, consisting of the 50th Territorial Division, was in touch with the French holding the Chemin-des-Dames. The weight of the German attack in our sector fell on the 50th Division, which had the worst of the gas bombardment and sustained the heaviest part of the German infantry attack. The troops bore up magnificently and held on until the men were drowned under German numbers. The same fate overtook the French Division on the crest on the right, and a retirement to the second line was inevitable. A gallant attempt by the 50th Division to recapture Craonne was defeated chiefly through machine-gun fire from German tanks attacking on the right flank. The enemy used tanks in a greater number than ever before. Finally the 50th Division was obliged to fall back in the general retreat to the river, keeping in touch with the French on the left. On the right of the sector our 21st and French Divisions stood the assault like rocks, and the Germans attacking in a proportion of only two to one did not progress. It was along the Chemin-des-Dames, where the density of the attack was greater, that the Anglo-French line was submerged. The 21st and the French Divisions, after beating off a fantastic number of attacks, held last night almost integrally the ground on which the battle began. Battalions of our 25th Division were sent to support them and units of this Division are now fighting with the French in close amalgamation.

The Evacuation of Soissons.

London, May 29.
A French communique says:—The battle assumed a particularly violent character on the left wing, in the region of Soissons. We evacuated the town, of which we held the exits. The battle is continuing west and south-east of Soissons on the plateaux between Belleu and Septonne and Ambryes and Chacrisse.

The German Drive Increases.

London, May 29.
A French communique says:—During the night the German drive, supported by the arrival of fresh divisions, increased notably on the two wings in the direction of Soissons and Rheims. On the left we retired fighting foot by foot to the outskirts east of Soissons, where the battle continues bitterly in the centre, while we gave ground under pressure in the region of Boupergne to the north of Ferret Tardenois. Franco-British troops, further east, succeeded in maintaining the positions on the line from Brunielot to Savigny and Tilloy. On the right the troops covering Rheims fell back behind the Aisne Canal to north-west of the town.

The American Success.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing on May 29, says:—The front from Lore to Voormarselle remains pretty quiet. The Germans are apparently very vexed at the American success at Cantigny and have opened a tremendous bombardment upon the new positions. The enemy counter-attack was met by the Allied gunners with such a hurricane of fire that waves in a mass were stopped dead and thrown back with heavy losses.

Local Efforts.

London, May 29.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We drove off a night raiding party in the neighbourhood of Besumont Hamel. The French completely repulsed a local attack north of Kemmel.

Germans Conceal Their Intentions.

London, May 29.
An American correspondent with the French armies says that the German efforts to conceal their preparations for the attack on the Aisne were unopposed. Troops brought up for the attack were told that they were merely going to relieve the first line troops and only learned of the attack on Sunday night. The Germans had not increased their supplies of ammunition and had not erected a single hospital or aviation camp which might indicate their intention to attack, and they even avoided taking paths which might attract the attention of the enemy. Moreover, for several days prior to the attack they actually allowed French aeroplanes to fly over their lines unhindered in order not to arouse suspicion.

Germans Claim 25,000 Prisoners.

London, May 29.
A German communique now claims a total of 25,000 prisoners.

TURKISH SUCCESS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

London, May 29.
A Turkish communique says:—We occupied Kirkuk in Mesopotamia and the British withdrew to the south.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RAIDS ON COLOGNE.

Britain Respects a Religious Request.

London, May 29.
Reuter learns that the Vatican has transmitted to the British Government a request from the Cardinal Archbishop of Cologne that in view of the serious damage lately done by British raids on Cologne, Britain should abstain from bombing Cologne during the Corpus Christi procession on the 30th instant.

It is significant that the investigators of the policy of air raids now have to come and beg for relaxation on an important religious occasion, seeing that the Germans did not spare worshippers in Paris on Good Friday. The British Government, however, has consented on religious and humane grounds that as far as they are concerned there shall not be any aircraft attack on cities not in the vicinity of the battlefield during daytime on May 30.

WAR PENSIONS.

Britain's Liabilities Explained.

London, May 29.
Sir Alfred Watson says the Government actually estimates on the basis of present casualties that the future pension charges will amount approximately to £45,000,000 for the current year, that they will be £40,000,000 in 1930 and will fall gradually to \$10,000,000 by 1960. Thus the pension liabilities at present in sight are \$750,000,000, exclusive of the cost of administration. It is estimated that the expenditure will inevitably be largely increased by a further protraction of the war.

FAILURE OF SUBMARINES.

Admission by Admiral von Tirpitz.

London, May 31.
Admiral von Tirpitz, addressing the Fatherland Party at Cologne, admitted that submarines had not given Germany the requisite freedom of the sea. He expressed the opinion that if a fresh war broke out, Holland and Norway would probably side against Germany. He emphasised Germany's need to secure future safety by holding the coasts of Flanders.

THE POST-WAR OUTLOOK.

London, May 29.
Mr. Hayes Fisher, the President of the Local Government Board, speaking at an Industrial Council meeting, said he did not anticipate any unemployment trouble for many years after the war. He aimed at building at least 300,000 workmen's dwellings within a year of the declaration of peace.

NOT FOR THE KAISER.

London, May 29.
Mr. Edwards, the defeated candidate in the Wansbeck by-election, declared that the votes cast for him were not in favour of the Kaiser. Wansbeck miners were "not built that way."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE LATEST GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

How the Ladies' Way was Captured.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing yesterday, says: This morning's attack was preceded by four hours of gas-shell bombardment. The enemy engaged 25 Divisions, including some which were moved from the Hirsor-Meziers region at the last moment by night march. The attacking front was held by the Armies of Generals von Boehm and Fritz von Below, General von Boehm holding the region from Noyon to Craonne with nine Divisions, while General von Below held from Craonne to Aubervilliers with eight Divisions. The Chemin-des-Dames line was attacked in flank from the Corbeny-Juvincourt region. The enemy launched his infantry in dense waves against the eastern end of the plateau and captured Craonne by turning the flank of our division. They stormed the Calvaire and Vauclerc plateaux. The Germans outnumbered our men by 5 to 1. The position attacked was a long narrow-topped barrier along which Ladies' Way runs from Hurbise to the head of the valley. The defenders of the ridge had no room to manoeuvre and could not retreat even a few yards without losing the crest. It was inevitable that they should recoil under the shock, with the result that the Germans remained in possession of the ridge. Officers in touch with the situation are of the opinion that the results of the day's fighting on the Aisne are accepted by the High Command without dispute. Our front recoiled, in accordance with pre-arranged plan, and under the weight of the blow. The result at present is that the battle-field of last spring is again in the enemy's possession. No civilian population was lost in the whole region. The ground has been fought over so long that it has no economic value for either side.

The Front Not Broken.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters reports to-day: The Chemin-des-Dames was never more than a curtain of the fortresses of which the main defences were the Leon plateaux. We held the curtain, but the fortress itself was never ours. The Germans utterly failed this time to do what they succeeded in doing on March 31. Our front is not broken for us. The battle has so far gone more satisfactorily than the battle of March. The Germans are unlikely to be able to make serious headway before the arrival of our reserves restores the equilibrium of the front.

Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters reports this evening: Except north of Mont Kemmel the enemy artillery was comparatively quiet on the Flanders front. They were four British divisions which withstood the first onslaught on the Aisne, composed of English troops representing many English counties, contradicting the German assertion that the English leave the heaviest fighting to the overseas troops. There is great satisfaction among the British troops at the news of the successful attack by the Americans near Montdidier, wherein they prisoners more than a hundred and forty. Popular sentiment was expressed by a Scotch corporal who remarked "Now we shan't be long."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE LATEST GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

Our Aerial Operations.

London, May 28.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The weather was fine but cloudy and visibility was not good for a full day's flying. We dropped sixteen tons of bombs on various objectives, including billets between Armentieres, Lens and Bruges docks. We brought down fifteen German aeroplanes and drove down three. Two British are missing. We dropped heavy bombs at night on Zebrugge lock and Bruges docks, also a great number on enemy's dumps and billets totalling twenty-one tons. All our aeroplanes returned. Hostile night-bombers were active. A Gotha was forced to descend in our lines and its three occupants were taken prisoner. Our long-distance night-bombers were very active. They dropped four to five tons of bombs on the chemical works at Mannheim, the railway station at Landau, the electric power station at Kreuzwald and on railway stations at Metzablon and Concelles. Very large explosions were observed. One British machine is missing.

The Retreat Continues.

London, May 29.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters telegraphing on Tuesday afternoon, says:—The French and British Divisions holding the Aisne front were forced to continue the retreat during the past 24 hours under pressure of enormously superior numbers. They are fighting very gallantly. Reserves are hurrying up from concentration points. The Germans include seven special "storm" Divisions which fought on March 21st and have since not been seen. They presumably have been refitting. There were also two Divisions of the Guards.

A Belgian communique says: Enemy artillery activity was especially lively in our back areas, many civilian casualties resulting in the bombarded localities.

A French official message says: Enemy aeroplanes were espied at midnight on the 27th-28th, westward of Ronen and were violently attacked by our anti-aircraft batteries. One dropped bombs on the Rouen district killing one and wounding four.

Fierce Fighting.

London, May 29.
A French communique, dated 27th May, says: Last night and to-day the enemy, again profiting by his numerical superiority, made fresh efforts to accentuate the drive southwards and towards Soissons. Our troops on the left counter-attacked vigorously, stopped the German advance and shattered attacks on the heights of Neuville and on Margival from Vregny to north-east of Soissons and on the hills in the region of Ciry, Salesonne and Vassemy, which immediately dominate the valley of Vesles to the south. In the centre, where the enemy made his principal effort, the battle is developing and has sustained its violence on the line at Vesles which the Germans succeeded in crossing this morning at several points notably in the region of Barzoches and Lesdunes. On the right the British on Saint Thierry ridge resisted the assaults of the enemy, who seems to have suffered particularly heavy losses. West of Montdidier the Americans, supported by our tanks, brilliantly carried on a front of two kilometres the salients of Cantigny also the village which the enemy had strongly fortified, capturing 170 prisoners and a quantity of material. German counter-attacks in the afternoon against Cantigny completely failed. The artillery duel continues with great activity on the right of the Meuse and at several points on the Lorraine front. Two strong enemy "coups de main" in the region of Vesle and Embremesnil were repulsed after sharp fighting.

On the right the Franco-British troops after an energetic defence of St. Thierry have withdrawn slowly to the south and south-east of these heights where they are holding on between the Vesle and Aisne canal. In the centre the fighting continued with various fluctuations on south bank of the Vesle the heights of which our troops are defending with admirable bravery. West of Montdidier the Americans shattered two enemy counter-attacks on Cantigny. The artillery duel continues lively on both banks of the Meuse, in the Woevre sector at Embremesnil and in Lorraine. A series of hostile raids north of Bezonvaux in the region of Badonvilliers, near the Rhine and Rhone canal failed under our fire.

Press Opinion.

London, May 29.
The newspapers do not seek to minimise the formidable nature of the success which brought the Germans in the Aisne region farther south than they have been since the beginning of the trench war of 1914, but none take the alarmist views which were widespread two months ago. Regret is expressed that the Allies have lost the positions they have sacrificed so much to maintain and develop and it is feared many heavy guns are lost, but it is pointed out that experience has shown that great thrusts always lose their impetus just when the defence is bringing its reserves into action and recollections of the German defeats at Kemmel and elsewhere inspire a feeling of calm confidence that Generalissimo Foch's reserves will still save the situation. Indeed a late despatch of the "Daily Chronicle" correspondent with the French armies announces that French reserves are arriving at the front and the worst is believed to be over. German papers are already trumpeting a showy success for the Crown Prince as a dynastic victory for the Hohenzollerns, but the correspondents show that he has gained on the Aisne no stronger a line than he already held while the enemy command by extending its battle line to one hundred and ninety miles has seriously dispersed its forces all of which must be fed with a ratio of loss constantly higher than that of the defenders. Observers are agreed that the losses of the Allies are comparatively small. Their retirement was deliberate and carried out in good order. The French still hold the valuable Vermy Plateau north-east of Soissons and commanding the Bernoise spur east of Venizel and south of the river where a counter-attack stemmed the German rush, while the British on the other wing holding their ground inflicted the most heavy losses on St. Thierry heights, five miles north-west of Rheims. The possession of these important points on the flanks, says the "Times," opens a prospect that the main rush in the centre may be more quickly checked.

Reserves Arriving on the Scene.

London, May 29.
A Paris semi-official message says: The Germans are incessantly employing fresh divisions to make good their very heavy losses. On the other hand our reserves are arriving on the scene and will in a few days have made their action felt and restored the equilibrium of the situation. A French communique says the Germans have reached the outskirts of Soissons.

(Continued on page 7.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

SIR GILBERT PARKER.

London, May 29.
Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., has resigned owing to ill-health.

DR. SUN'S EXIT.

Where Has He Gone?

It is the decision of General Luk Wing-ting, says a vernacular journal, that Dr. Sun Yat-sen should quit Canton, because his presence there has done a great deal of mischief and has caused dissension among the leaders of the various parties. One telegram from Hongkong states that he has decided to go to Penang in the Straits Settlements in order to avoid trouble. Another reports that at the request of General Luk Wing-ting and other Kwangsi leaders, Dr. Sun on the 21st instant started for Japan, where he will do his best to induce the Japanese Government to recognise the Southern Government in Kwangtung. Chou Obang, Chou Sze-ching and Yeh Hsia-sheng, prominent members of the Kuomintang, have accompanied him in his mission.

Regulations on the general outlines of the Republican Military Government containing 12 articles were passed by the "Extraordinary" Parliament on the 16th instant, and telegraphed by Wu Ting-fang, Lam Pao-ki and Mok Wing-ahen to Shun Chun huan, Luk Wing-ting, Tang Chi-yao and other Southern leaders for approval. On the 20th instant the regulations were published, and on the following day Shun Chun huan, Luk Wing-ting, Tang Chi-yao, Wu Ting-fang, Lam Pao-ki, Tang Shao-yi and Sun Yat-sen were elected by the "Extraordinary" Parliament, as Directors of the Administrative Affairs. As the Central Government has ignored the telegram sent by the Southern leaders a few weeks ago protesting against the Sino-Japanese Agreement, these Directors, after their inauguration, have addressed another strong telegram, in their new capacity as Directors, stating that if the Central Government does not sign the Sino-Japanese Agreement, and is willing to refer all points of difference to a Peace Conference for final settlement, the Military Government in the South will at once cease hostilities and await the solution of the situation by the will of the people of the country, etc. At the same time the Military Government has established offices at Chaochuan and Swatow for the recruiting of military officers, who will receive a monthly salary of \$36 each, to train new troops for service.—Peking Daily News.

DROWNED: HERSELF WITH BABY.

After a search lasting the greater part of a night, the bodies of Mrs. Ethel Maude Briggs and her fortnight-old baby were found in the pond on Clapham Common recently. Mrs. Briggs, who was 25 years of age, and the wife of a soldier, left her home in Wandsworth-road, taking the child with her. She had been in a depressed state of mind. The woman, clasping her baby in her arms, was found lying face downwards in the water.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Ammunition Wanted.
An American soldier, writing to his mother from France, says:—"Don't take good space up with sweets that should be used for needed ammunitions. They taste fine, but they won't do much good when the Hun starts his offensive."

The Russian Peace Force.
Writing on the Russian peace, the *Socialist newspaper Menschewi* says:—"If the German Emperor had demanded Moscow as his capital and a summer residence in the Ural Mountains the Russians would have agreed without blinking an eyelid. The great tragedy of the East has ended in a farce."

The Action of Alcohol.
A report on the action of alcohol on the human organism, prepared by an Advisory Committee appointed by the Central Control Board in November, 1916, has been published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. The committee, on a review of the evidence, have been led provisionally to the following conclusions:—That the main effect of alcohol (apart from the effects of its continued excessive use) is confined to the nervous system; That alcohol is narcotic rather than stimulant in action; That its nutritional value is strictly limited; That its habitual use as an aid to work is physiologically unsound; and That the ordinary use of alcohol should not only be moderate, but should also be limited to the consumption of beverages of adequate dilution, taken at sufficient intervals, of time to prevent a persistent deleterious action on the tissues.

Charge of Personating a Juror.
At Guildhall before Alderman Sir John Biddle, Francis Henry Clarke, of Boston Farm, Brompton, was summoned for having personated a person named Tole, who had been summoned to serve on a jury at the Central Criminal Court last December. Sir Archibald Bodkin, prosecuting, said that in addition to the offence on the summons, which was a common law misdemeanour, he proposed charging the defendant with committing an act tending to defeat the proper administration of justice. The matter arose out of the trial of a man named Wakefield for felony.

The defendant's employer, a farmer of Brentford, Middlesex, was summoned as one of the jurors, but the defendant personated him, and was duly sworn and served on the jury. Wakefield was convicted, he appealed and on the ground of the personation a new trial was ordered, when he was acquitted. Evidence having been given, the defendant reserved his defence, and the Alderman committed him for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Massacre of Armenians.
Proceeding.
All reports received by the Armenian Information Bureau indicate that the leading over of the Trans-Caucasian districts will lead to further massacres of Armenians and their final extermination. The Turkish troops who are advancing to occupy Armenia are charged in destroying all the remaining Armenian population. "At Samakh, on the Black Sea, every Armenian male—man, boy, or baby—has been put to the sword, while similar atrocities are being perpetrated in town and village. Boghos Nubar Pasha, president of the Armenian National Delegation in Paris, declares that the Armenian nation throughout its whole history has never been so near complete annihilation as it is to-day. Armenians hitherto have always found shelter and protection with their brothers of the Caucasus when danger threatened them. Now the supreme refuge is torn from them, and left to themselves, they are bound to be outnumbered and crushed by the Turks, followed by hordes of Kurds and Tartars. Boghos Pasha points out, too, that the Turks are not likely to stop at this point, but will expect to fight a way through the Caucasus to Turkestan, thus preparing a Germany-Turkish march towards the Chinese border, Persia, and Afghanistan."

GENERAL NEWS.

Imprisonment for Sugar Fraud.
At Guildford evidence was given that Emmeline Piggott, wife of a mission worker at Shalford, obtained 18 sugar cards by giving false information as to the number of residents in her cottage, when she was only entitled to four. She secured 6lb. sugar weekly from separate grocers, and also obtained meat, butter, and margarine under the Guildford rationing scheme. She was also found guilty of making false statements on an application form for food cards. The defendant was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the second division.

New County Court Judge.
Mr. Ivor Bowen, K.C., has been appointed Judge of County Courts on Circuit 28, in place of his Honour Judge Evans, deceased. Mr. Bowen has been Recorder of Swansea since 1915. He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1889, when he joined the South Wales and Chester Circuit. From that time he has taken a great interest in the legal history and the literature of Wales and in the life of his Inn of Court. Formerly a captain in the Territorial Force Reserve, after the outbreak of war he raised the first and second London Welsh Battalions of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at Gray's Inn, and from June, 1915, he has held the rank of lieutenant-colonel (temporary) to command the 18th Battalion of the 2nd London Welsh.

"Eccentricity" of Sisters.
At London Sessions, before Mr. A. J. Lawrie, Alexandra Economou, 41, and her sister, Joan Economou, 30, were jointly charged with conspiring together to obtain by false pretences 14 costumes, 14 petticoats, some dressing gowns, and other clothing from Martha Bertha Derrans. The defendants pleaded "Not Guilty." Mr. Wallington, for the prosecution, said that the alleged false pretences were that one of the defendants represented herself to be engaged to be married to a wealthy Lancashire Justice of the Peace. The prosecutrix supplied a large quantity of clothing, but afterwards found that no arrangements had been made for any wedding. At a police court the case looked a very bad one of false pretences, but after considering the evidence in detail he had come to the conclusion that there might be difficulties in satisfying the jury as to fraudulent intent. The matter might have arisen from some eccentricity, and in the circumstances he proposed to offer no evidence. The jury found a formal verdict of not guilty.

High Prices for Modern Pictures.
A number of well known modern pictures and drawings produced a total of £20,000 at Christie's. The sale included the property of Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, who is giving up his residence, Sudbourne Hall, Suffolk, and works from various other sources. The picture which brought the highest price, the property of Mr. Clark, was Fred Walker's "The Bathers," 1867, frequently exhibited and etched by R. W. Macbeth; this realised 2,800 guineas at Sir Osbert Quiller's sale in 1909, and now fell to Messrs. Gooden and Fox at 2,100 guineas. Two interiors, by John Pettie, 1875, "The Solo" and "The Step," for each of which Mr. Clark paid 1,200 guineas at the Turner sale of 1913, now sold for 950 guineas each (Wallie). In the same property were several drawings by Birket Foster, "Teaching Dolly to Dance," 1,090 guineas (Parkers); "Children in the Hayfield," 390 guineas (Simpson); and a view at Clonvelly, 1882, 320 guineas (F. L. Nettelfield); and the following pictures: "Sam Rough," the "Lake of Windermere," 480 guineas (Duncan); B. Foster, "Overlands, Morecambe Bay," 480 guineas (Simpson). Two drawings by Turner, the property of Miss L. L. A. Taylor, formerly the property of her uncle, the Rev. W. Kingsley, of South Kilvington, Thirsk, and exhibited at the Old Masters in 1889, were secured by Messrs. Agnew, "Prudhoe Castle, Sunset," circa 1826, 1,550 guineas, and "Great Yarmouth, Nelson's Monument," circa 1827, 1,250 guineas.

NOTICES.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Sir W. Robertson's Thanks.

General Sir William Robertson has sent the following reply to the mover of a resolution which was passed recently by a large audience at Tower Hill, protesting against the action of the Government:—"I am much obliged for your letter of yesterday. The resolution you forward comes at a time when it is greatly appreciated. I have done what I have done in the interests of my countrymen, and I trust that nothing will ever persuade me to do otherwise. The resolution puts new heart into me."

The Spirit of the Dominions.

Lord Morris, the ex-Prime Minister, speaking of Newfoundland, at a luncheon given by the Mayor of Bath, expressed his unbounded faith in the absolute victory of the Allies. It was only, he said, a question of time. In the Dominions the war feeling was as strong and recruits were coming forward as willingly as ever. Newfoundland was the first land over which the British flag flew outside the British Isles, and he claimed that it was the birth-place of the colonial idea. England had shown herself superior to every other nation in her treatment of the colonies and Dominions, and this was why the whole of the British Empire was at war.

Masonic Benevolence.

At the 76th festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, held in the Connaught Rooms under the presidency of Sir R. V. Vassar Smith, Provincial Grand Master of Gloucestershire, who was supported by the Dean of Hereford and the Lord Mayor of London, the sum of £77,890 10s. was collected. London contributed £31,350 and the Province of Gloucestershire over £6,886. The highest amount for London was contributed by the Lodge of Sincerity, which gave £2,100. The total was the largest in the history of the institution. At the dinner 1,200 Stewards were present; and 3,068 supported the festival, in addition to 237 ladies and 25 sons of Freemasons.

Workers to Visit the Fleet.

The Navy, the organ of the Navy League, announces that arrangements are now being

made to convey parties of working men to the principal war bases of the Navy, where they will be introduced to the everyday life of the Fleet under war conditions and see the ships which are protecting their homes from invasion and starvation. Several prominent Labour leaders have already visited the Grand Fleet, but it is felt that the time has come to give the rank and file an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with the men who guard the North Sea. About 50 men are expected to make the excursion every week, and a committee is now completing the final arrangements.

Food Economy in Army Hospitals.

The War Office has issued for the guidance of those in charge of military hospitals two daily scales of quantities of food sufficient for 100 patients. Scale A represents a value of 2,700 calories per patient, below which no hospital should go; scale B provides for 3,250 calories, which should be exceeded only in special circumstances. The closest supervision over food consumption is urged, especially in the case of milk, which will grow more scarce until May. Except when purchased for medical dietetic reasons, the issue of milk should be restricted. The consumption of milk reaches a very high figure, notably in hospitals treating officer patients, who are often served with glasses of milk in the forenoon, and also with their meals. It is suggested that cocoa might be substituted for early lunch and also for the hot milk issued at bedtime, unless there are special medical instructions to the contrary. The taking of milk as a drink should be curtailed in the officers' mess. Bread should not be issued at dinner time but the amount usually eaten at this meal should be issued with 2oz. of cheese, or with dripping, and cocoa or soup for supper. The dripping obtained in cooking the patients' diets should be issued instead of margarine, as far as possible, and used for cooking purposes as well. Rice for pudding should be cooked overnight, as by this means it is possible to give the patient a much larger helping. Any potatoes left over from the dinner should be fried and issued at breakfast next morning.

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	100	4.65
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Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
Nectar	50	2.35
Yildiz	25	1.10
Club Size	10	.40
Non Plus Ultra	100	3.60
	50	1.85
	20	.75
Supertine	100	2.40
	50	1.20

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NOTICES.

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APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.
THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.,
Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.
Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

HONGKONG CLUB

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Hongkong Club will be held in the Large Dining Room on FRIDAY, the 31st May 1918, at 5.30 P.M.
Business.--To confirm the Resolution passed on the 16th inst. as posted in the Hall of the Club.
By Order,
E. DES VOEUX,
Secretary.
Hongkong 17th May, 1918.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

CHINESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL.

A NEW CLASS for "BEGINNERS" will commence on TUESDAY, 4th June, 1918, if sufficient support be forthcoming. Application for enrolment and enquiries regarding hours of School Fees, etc., should be made to the undersigned as early as possible.

By Order,
A. H. LOWE,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1918.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG JAPANESE MASSAGE ASSOCIATION.

WE beg to notify the Public that we, the undersigned, being proper and fully certificated, Massagers, have this day formed the above Massage Association.
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Mrs. A. SUGA
Mrs. H. MORITA, Duddell Street
Mr. T. TAKAYE
Mr. I. HONDA, 54 Queen's Road Central
Mrs. S. HONDA

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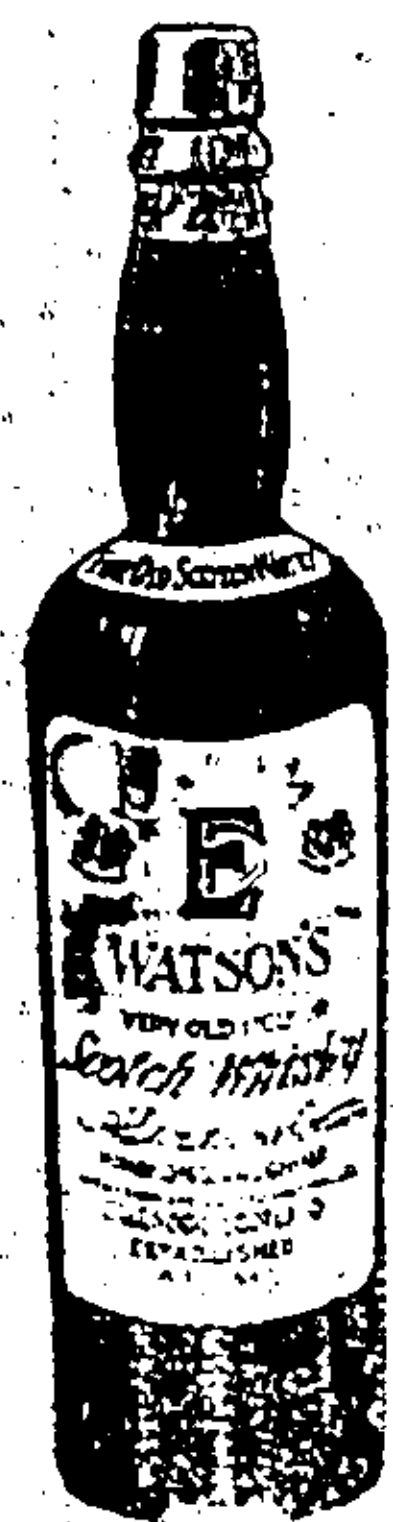
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TELEPHONE 616.

Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides. All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1918.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL.

The initial legislative step in the enforcement of conscription for war service outside the Colony was taken yesterday, when the General Military Service Ordinance was read a first time. On the first reading of Bills it is not customary for any speeches to be delivered, but on this occasion, no doubt because of the extreme importance of the question, the Attorney General made a few observations, which, though not going very far, are most welcome. Farther than that, the telegrams which passed between His Excellency the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies were laid on the table. These contained one or two facts which were not previously known to the public, the first being that the new measure accords with the unanimous wish of the Chamber of Commerce, and the others relating to the drafting of the new Hongkong force after its arrival in India. The men, we are informed, will first of all be attached to the Sixth Training Battalion in Kirkcaldy, and then will be drafted into the 1/5th Battalion Hampshire Regiment, where they will serve together in the same Company, as far as possible.

In his brief speech, the Attorney General touched upon three points of considerable importance, but none more so than the question of what he described as the essential trade interests of the Colony, which is one of the grounds upon which exemption may be granted. It is here that we touch upon the most vital issue of all, and one upon the interpretation of which will largely depend the number of men who can be spared. Precisely how the Tribunal will proceed in this connection we do not know, but we are glad to see that the Attorney General laid stress on the necessity of essential British trade interests in China, as a controlled from Hongkong, being taken into full account. There is nothing laid down in the Ordinance for the guidance of the Tribunal in classifying various trades and callings, but we presume that one of the first tasks of this body will be to decide what businesses are "essential" and what are not. Here the greatest care will need to be taken to avoid erring on either one side or the other, and we can only hope that in this regard the very fullest consideration of all the circumstances will be secured. There may be many businesses which are not in a strictly literal sense essential—the Colony might well go on with out them—but a point that should be guarded against is the shutting down of a British house merely to give an opportunity to neutrals and others to step in and pick up the fruits of British labour and application. Questions of this character will need very delicate handling. In the matter of subsistence allowances to dependents of men who are conscripted, we are glad to see that the Government expresses its willingness to act sympathetically. Married men affected by the Ordinance have special cause for concerning themselves with this point, since the ordinary Army separation allowance would obviously not meet the special circumstances prevailing here. If married men are needed, it is the duty of the Government to see that dependents are not made to suffer in consequence, just as it did in the case of the civil servants recently sent home. The Colony ought to be able and willing to bear that burden.

In comments which we have heard passed regarding the new measure, there is some disappointment expressed at the fact that the Hongkong contingent is to be sent to India for training. Most of those affected would, we know, infinitely prefer to be sent to England, both for reasons of climate and also out of a desire to renew home and family connections before going into actual service. There is rather more feeling on the point than there would be had not the men recently called out from the Government service been sent to Europe. However, the plane has now been made, and we presume they will not be altered. There is at any rate some little comfort in the fact that the men of the contingent will, so far as possible, serve in the same Company. At the moment there is little more that can be said on the subject; meanwhile, the Colony anxiously awaits the time when an opportunity will be given of seeing how the scheme will be worked in actual effect.

The Shanghai Germans.

Hongkong is, fortunately, free of the enemy taint, but in Shanghai, where Germans are allowed to roam about at their own will and pleasure, the authorities have constantly to be on their guard to keep them within bounds. We notice that the Captain Superintendent of Police there, in commenting on the recent arrest of a German subject, speaks of the frustration of plots and intrigues on the part of German and Austro-Hungarian subjects, and, in the absence of the adoption of of stricter measures, emphasises the necessity for constant watchfulness of their activities. The German, wherever he sets foot, is never happy unless he is indulging in intrigue of some kind or another, and there can be no doubting the point that enemy subjects have been at the bottom of much of the recent unrest in the Northern Settlement. At the present time, enemy subjects there are required to report themselves twice weekly to the Police—a very necessary precaution—but until they are either all interned, or unceremoniously bundled out of the Settlement, we may expect to see recurring evidence of their complicity in plots of an unsavoury kind.

Sir Gilbert Parker.

The news that Sir Gilbert Parker, owing to ill-health, has resigned his seat in the House of Commons, will be received with much regret by many Britons throughout the Empire, to whom the name of Sir Gilbert as a true Imperialist has endeared itself for many years. As Parliamentarians go, he is comparatively young, being but fifty-six. Ill-health alone makes such retirement excusable, and that alone would, it is certain, cause one of Sir Gilbert Parker's active temperament to withdraw from Parliament. For many years Sir Gilbert has been keenly interested in various Imperial affairs. He it was who, in 1903, initiated and organised the first Imperial Universities Conference in London, and with a view to increasing his knowledge of Imperial affairs and of widening his outlook upon them, he travelled extensively in the East, in Europe, Egypt, the South Seas, Northern Canada and elsewhere. Sir Gilbert was a Canadian by birth, and like most eminent Britons born away from the Motherland he had a passionate interest in the welfare of the Empire as a whole. He is a distinguished literary man as well as a politician. Since the beginning of the war he has written innumerable articles on one phase or other of the struggle, the series of articles that appeared as the result of his visit to the Scandinavian countries and to the United States attracting particular attention at the time. Sir Gilbert is also well known as a prolific novelist, two of his best books probably being "The Seats of the Mighty" and "The Vendetta."

The Enemy's Offensive.

It must, we think, be admitted that, so far, the enemy's latest aggressive movement in France is going very much in his favour, notwithstanding the valiant efforts of the Allied troops. Of course the initial attack in such actions is almost invariably in favour of the attacker, especially if the preliminary movements have been cautiously planned. Such seems on the present occasion to have been the case, as we read that "the German efforts to conceal their preparations for the attack on the Aisne were unprecedented" and that various subterfuges were adopted to mislead the Allied forces as to the probable point of attack. That this strategy has enabled the enemy to obtain a certain amount of success at the outset is apparent from the fact that both the British and the French armies have been compelled to give way at various points and that Soissons has been evacuated. So far the telegrams do not reveal a state of affairs that can be said to be incapable of successful recovery on our part, and we must therefore await events with patience and tranquilly, keeping in mind that when the Germans were even nearer Paris than they now are, they received the heaviest and most effective blow of the war.

DAY BY DAY.

NO-ONE BUT PAUPERS AND PARASITES CAN AFFORD TO BE EXTRAVAGANT.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the first anniversary of Lord Devonport's resignation as Food Controller.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 2½d.

Kailan Output.
The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 18, amounted to 66,417 tons and the sales during the period to 59,181 tons.

A Ruse that Failed.
Sentence of fourteen days' hard labour was passed by Mr. J. E. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, on a Chinese, who was charged with stealing a chair from the Catholic Union Club. It appeared that the man went to the Club last evening and took away a chair, saying a member had sent him for one. He was later arrested as his story was found to be untrue.

To Mariners.
Notice is given by the Harbour Master of Canton that in view of the high water and strong current now prevailing in the Canton Delta, steam vessels are requested to take extra precaution to proceed at a moderate speed when passing through crowded parts of the river and through those parts where the banks are liable to suffer damage from the wash. Special precautions are necessary when passing dykes under repair.

Opium Cases.
Before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, at the Magistracy this morning, a Chinese was charged with the unlawful possession of seventeen-and-a-half taels of prepared opium. He was arrested on the S. S. Ho Nam from Canton. He was fined \$1,500, or three months' hard labour. A fine of \$200, or three weeks' hard labour, was imposed on another Chinese who was found trying to export two taels of prepared opium. A woman was also charged with possessing four-and-a-half taels of prepared opium, and in this case the drug was found very cleverly concealed in a bamboo pole. This case was adjourned until to-morrow for the analyst's certificate.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

Owing to many obstacles, the scheme of borrowing two months' rent from the houses from the last of June is postponed.

A report from Samsui states that all the fields in the neighbourhood of Samsui are flooded, and the dykes are in a very dangerous condition. Tam Hok-hang, the Superintendent of the dredging of rivers, on receiving many reports from various places in regard to the dangerous condition of the dykes along the West River, has sent out a number of officers with money in order to render immediate assistance.

Sam Hung-ying, commander in the west, has reported that the Luichow city is now encircled by the Canton soldiers and will fall in a few days.

The Authority has notified the Electric Power Co., that if the payment of the electric power bill with paper currency is again refused, the Company will be severely dealt with.

A fight has broken out between the Sand Field protecting soldiers formerly commanded by Yan Tai who resigned few days ago, and the new Sand Field protecting soldiers now commanded by Lam King-wan. It occurred at a place called Sam Hop She, midway between Shaki and Macao, on the 29th inst. The junks when passing near the place, returned on hearing the thunder of the guns. Chin Shan city (four miles from Macao) is now in the hands of Yan's troops and is strongly fortified. Thousands of villagers have taken refuge in Macao. It is reported that over 400 soldiers of Lam's army were killed. Most of them are the so-called Chinese soldiers formed from bandits.

EMPIRE DAY.

Speech by British Consul at Shanghai.

Among the celebrations of Empire Day at Shanghai was a military review in the British Consular grounds. The stands allotted for the accommodation of the guests and the seats round the enclosure in the grounds of the Consulate General were crowded when the B. V. O. headed by a British naval detachment and the town band, marched into the grounds in fine style. The lengthy procession which the troops made was brought up by the Sikh Police and the Sikh mounted detachment and it was apparent when the men had taken up their position on the ground that the demonstration had grown almost beyond the limits of the space available.

Punctually at noon Sir Everard Fraser appeared on the grounds and accompanied by Major Trueman and Major Pilcher and the officers of the various detachments made a tour of inspection, after which the men marched past the saluting base, the salute being taken by Sir Everard Fraser.

The men then being drawn up in a hollow square Sir Everard Fraser said:—

Major Trueman, officers, non-commissioned officers and members of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps. For many weary months of war the heart of every Briton in Shanghai yearned to see again the White Ensign, emblem of the sure shield of the British Empire. We rejoice therefore that our fourth Empire Day parade is distinguished by the presence of a detachment from His Majesty's ships, officers and men who have borne their part in the glorious work of His Majesty's Navy during this great war.

I have no doubt that the dearest dream of your Officer Commanding is to lead you on active service; and I have no doubt that, could that dream be realised, you would prove your worth in battle. But duty has restricted your part as units to fitting yourselves to maintain in case of peril the safety of this Settlement—a part lacking as a rule in excitement but none the less of great value to our national interests. I say your part as units, for many of your members have gone to the front and not a few have made the supreme sacrifice of loyalty and have died for right and freedom. We strive to allay our regret for the loss of these gallant lives in the full assurance of the undying honour and glory won by their heroism, which must hearten us to bear worthily our own warlike troubles and disappointments. Those whom we would find comfort are the equally ardent patriots who long to go to the fighting line but are held back by insurmountable claims. How many of these there are among our community my work in connection with military service registration has shown me. Not a British Volunteer but was eager and ready to do his bit, none but was content loyally to place duty before inclination. The soundest consolation for these disappointed volunteers is the knowledge that in your ranks is acquired training of the utmost value so that they can make sure that, should our country come to need their service, they will answer the call not only eager but thoroughly efficient.

You are part of an International Corps. While the war has united all Allied residents as never before and has softened national prejudices, it has happily convinced us British residents that we must hold more and more closely together and that no class division should stand in the way; just as in your units, hard work and military ability are the only things allowed to count; and this true public spirit, I am glad to hear, has considerably swelled your numbers.

A year ago I was privileged to remain you of the three virtues on which the British Empire today as ever stands firm against all assaults of any force—courage, patience and faith. Since that occasion the course of the war has called for the exercise of all three by all Britons. Here in Shanghai I am confident that we have not bleached nor let spring—they took.

CLAIM AGAINST GERMANS.

Hongkong Company's Action Falls.

At the Mixed Court in Shanghai judgement has been given by Mr. Grant Jones, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan in the case in which the Hongkong Central Estates, Ltd. sued O. Struckmeyer, E. Sieber and H. A. Siebs claiming the payment of rent alleged to be due on a portion of Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, occupied by the German firm of Siemens & Co. at the date of the outbreak of the war.

In the course of his judgment, Mr. Grant Jones said:—The plaintiffs are not resident in this country; defendants are not subjects of this country, though amenable to the jurisdiction; and the claim relates to immovable property situate outside this country. In Buenos Ayres Railway Co. v. Northern Railway Co. of Buenos Ayres (2 Q.B.D. 210), which was an action on a contract for rent of premises situate abroad, it was held that the fact that the suit relates to immovable property in a foreign country is not of itself sufficient to oust the jurisdiction, unless it can be proved that the Courts in the foreign country have by their own law exclusive jurisdiction. (Fitzgibbon: Foreign Judgments p. 67) Whether that is the effect of the Ordinance of 1915 it is not, I think, necessary for us to decide, for even where the Court has jurisdiction to try a case, either legal or equitable, it may refuse to try it on the ground that a foreign tribunal is the more convenient forum (Ewing v. Orr-Ewing, 1885, 10 App. Cas. 453). And in the present suit we have come to the following conclusions: that defendants are unduly embarrassed in their defence by the venue in that, as pleaded, they have no knowledge of and are unable to verify the correctness of the claim; that plaintiffs should first exhaust their remedy in the Courts of the Colony, possibly under the Legal Proceedings against Enemies Ordinance, 1917, and, if they obtain judgement there, then come and sue on that judgement here; and that we are not in a position, on the evidence before us, to pass upon matters which are so peculiarly within the province of the Colonial Court. On these grounds we dismiss the action.

up in our hearts any unworthy doubt of the sure success of our cause. Nay, the very vicissitudes of the Allies' fortunes have but served to intensify our devotion to our country and our faith that the great task in which our American brethren are giving more and more support worthy of their might to us and to our allies and in which China has now joined—that that great task of vindicating the right will in God's good time be crowned with complete victory.

Meantime you set before every Briton in Shanghai an example of willing acceptance of hard work and strict discipline, in short, of that self-sacrifice which is the guiding principle of the present noblest crusade against greed, tyranny and wrong.

And so I am more glad and more proud than I can tell you to review you again on this our Empire Day and to impress on you once more our common watchword "Be free men but God's bondsmen. Love the brotherhood, Fear God, Honour the King." and in earnest thereof I ask you to give three cheers for the sovereign of the British Empire, His Majesty King George.

After three cheers had been given for H. M. the King, the men then marched off the Consulate grounds to the Two Forebore where they dismissed. The Volunteers who were under the command of Major Trueman deserve every congratulation on their fine appearance. The Naval detachment too, who looked most business like in their white tunics, jammers, bandoliers and rifles, were the cynosure of all eyes and were greeted with applause at practically every turn.

There is an acute paper shortage. The man in the street imagines that the bulk of the goods goes to furnish the daily Press. The fact is, before the war 10 per cent. of the total output of the newspapers of the country. That amount is now cut down to one-sixth of pre-war quantities, and the price has gone up 400 to 600 per cent. Books, then, you would say, are streaming in supplies. But the president of the Publishers' Association shows that all the volumes issued are responsible for but 5 per cent. of the whole. Commerce, munitions, and reduced imports are responsible for Fleet Street's famine.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Even in East Africa good music is to be heard. A chaplain with our forces there tells us that the men will listen to nothing less than the best at the concerts given by the Church Army Halls and the Carlisle Clubs. Bagtime has in the course of the long-drawn-out campaign exhausted its charms, and now tropical Saturday (or Sunday) evenings are spent, on occasion, with Bach, Chopin, and the rest. Some little instruction in the methods of classical musicians was needed, but the men took to it kindly and tolerantly. And so it is that even at Lindi they have their Wagner nights. And it is nice to know that a piano captured from the Germans is contributing a share to the general enjoyment. It is, a correspondent says, but an instrument of doubtful pitch, "not very responsive," but we doubt not that it will be played with conviction, and render due homage to the "Ride of the Valkyries."

The concert, by the way, are given entirely by the men, without, that is, assistance from officers. And why should it not be so? A correspondent tells a story apropos of this question. One of his men was recently travelling (in uniform) by train in South Africa and reading the *Nineteenth Century*. A passenger—an oldish man—seemed interested in the spectacle. "My young man," he said, "do you really enjoy that?" "Why not?" was Tommy's reply, and it was a good retort. "I never knew soldiers were interested in such things," said the elderly gentleman. But they are.

In these days when the possibility of invasion from the sea is canvassed, there is a peculiar interest attached to the anniversary of the occasion when a body of hostile troops landed in Great Britain. The "attack" near Fishguard on February 22, 1797, was carried out by some fourteen hundred men, who were transported from France in three warships and an auxiliary boat, as it would be called now. The watchful eyes of the coastguard were at first deceived by the incoming ships, which flew the British flag, but upon realising the futility of the attempt to land, the French colours were hoisted and the vessels run ashore. Meanwhile preparation for the reception of the invaders proceeded apace, and every sort of likely weapon of wood, lead, and iron was requisitioned. Needless to say, the foreigners were easily captured, and the affair ended by the ships retreating and returning to France.

The adoption in Russia of the Gregorian Calendar as from February 14, which has been decreed by the Bolshevik Government, will bring into this method of reckoning time the last of the European nations which has held out against it. It is barely 170 years since England adopted the "New Style" of chronological reckoning. Attempts were, however, made as early as 1585, only three years after Pope Gregory had effected his important change. The subject, however, dropped, and was not revived until 1761, when the alteration was made by an Act of George III. This measure effected two great reforms one being the substitution of the Gregorian for the Julian Calendar, and the other the abolition of the practice of beginning the legal year on March 25.

WAR WEARINESS.

Napoleon's Day's Recalled.

A century ago Napoleon was safely interned in his island prison, and a former First Lord of the Admiralty complacently quoted Isaiah in his diary "Can this be the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms, that made the world as a wilderness and destroyed the cities thereof, that opened not the house of his prisoners?"

There was no pity for fallen greatness in the hearts of Englishmen who had been tried by fiercer and more sudden extremes of good and evil fortune than we have yet experienced in the struggle against a tyrant nation, and had endured all manner of hardships, including famine and the disease that follows it, for twenty-one perilous years.

The working classes of the Napoleonic period would have scoffed at the complaints of food shortage which are uttered to-day by their full-fed successors whose high standard of living in peacetime recalled Dele's saying that Englishmen eat three times as much as any Continental people.

It is generally supposed that the England of a hundred years ago was self-supporting so far as the staple food-stuffs were concerned. In a year of good harvests it was so; less than three weeks supply of corn would be imported.

But in a lean year—and had harvests were frequent between 1793 and 1815—twenty weeks supply had to be brought in, and the price of the wheaten loaf soared skyhigh.

The Sunday joint, the lack of which is so bitterly lamented by our modern proletarian, was a luxury undreamed of by the toilers in field and factory of the Napoleonic era.

They were well content if they could get half the present allowance of bread with a rag of nettle-fed bacon or a chunk of ill-flavoured cheese.

Napoleon's "Continental System" and the ravages of enemy privateers (which took a larger toll of our mercantile shipping even after Trafalgar, than the U boats did at the height of their success), cut deeply into our export trade, left the manufacturer's warehouse crammed with unsaleable goods, and made unemployment chronic throughout the industrial areas.

There were no munition factories to provide every man and woman with a steady war job.

Charlotte Bronte's "Shirley" gives us an admirably accurate picture of the manufacturer's difficulties, and the distress of his "hands" in the later stages of the war.

Little wonder that, as she wrote (in that curiously modern, because so very "temperamental" story, "national honour was become a mere empty name, of no value in the eyes of many, because their sight was dim with famine, and for a morsel of meat they would have sold their birthright."

But the wrath of the starving workers did not take the form of a stop-the-war agitation. It was directed against the new machinery which was already making England the world's workshop.

The modern parallel to this ill-directed campaign against "iron bread-stealers," as the new machines were called, is to be found in the desire of unenlightened labourites to wreck the improved mechanism of industry and finance which is now being built up for the benefit of employers and employed alike in the coming peace-time.

There can be no doubt that the working classes are infinitely better off in war-time to-day than they were even in the peaceful days that preceded, and followed, the last French bid for world dominion.

Indeed the stress of the struggle bears more lightly on them than the Crimean War did, as I lately learnt from an old Yorkshire couple who remember the cost of potato bread and black sugar at the time—he is a rosy checked retired farmer of over ninety and she a busy bustling dame of going on for eighty, who has all the past years in remembrance.

"Why, it's Oursen to-day for 'em," said the ancient lady, "if they only knew."

Taxation, however, was not heavier in the Napoleonic years, than it is to-day. The dog licence

CHINESE UNREST.

Peace Proposals of the South-West.

In connection with the telegram sent by the Southern leaders to the President and the Prime Minister asking peace proposals, the Kung-yen Pao says, "Owing to the peculiar circumstances in the North, no one can deny the necessity of entering into an agreement with the Japanese Government to prevent the invasion of the common enemy. It is unnecessary to affirm that our Government has done all it could to preserve the interest and rights of the country. It is no doubt, still fresh in the memory of the people of the country that General Tuan Chi-jui was the man through whose efforts Group V of the 21 Demands made by the Japanese Government during President Yuan Shih-kai's time was rejected. No one with any common sense will be likely to give credit to the false rumour that this same Tuan Chi-jui would betray the trust of the nation by yielding to the alleged demands of the Japanese."

"The public must be aware that there are men whose sole object is to betray the Tuan Cabinet, and who have spared no efforts to seek specious pretexts to work against him. Directly the negotiations commenced, they published false statements and tried to agitate among the people, and have now put forth their supreme efforts to strike a blow. When asked what is the true nature of the agreement, all the answer they could give is that 'it is a treaty which sells the country to Japan, which destroys the nation etc.' But no details can be given. If the people do not use their judgment and reason, they could be easily misled by their high-sounding patriotic expressions. The rebels have now availed themselves of the opportunity to advocate peace by circulating telegrams making peace proposals. Had they been actuated by a love and sympathy for the suffering people of the country, it would be wrong for us to oppose their actions. But the Government has good reason to believe that the rebels are not sincere. These who have posed themselves as peace-makers are at one with the rebels, plotting and intriguing against the Cabinet. Consequently when they make peace proposals, it only makes the situation worse than ever. The Central Government is eagerly watching for the signs of repentance among the Southern leaders, and as soon as there is any opportunity for peace negotiation the Government will seize it at once. We have heard that several persons have been sent down to Tientsin and Shanghai to arrange for peace negotiations; but we know for certain that these men will only succeed in creating disturbances. We cannot but believe that the peace telegrams sent from the Association of the Chambers of Commerce and other societies have been inspired by the Southern-ers who have been as active as ever in making warlike preparations against the Central Government.—Peking Daily News.

was one of Pitt's many inventions, which caused Sydney Smith to observe that 'a truly free Englishman walks about to-day covered with licences.'

Symptoms of war-weariness were even more marked than now. We find that one of Wellington's officers wrote to his mother in 1812, saying: "All the croakers are in England"—an observation which is constantly recurring in letters sent from the Front to the back in this very year of decision.

The soldiers and the statesmen who broke Napoleon's tyranny, and knew they were breaking it, were always being venomously attacked by those who, like Sydney Smith, writing under the nom-de-plume of Peter Plymley, thought France unconquerable and England bound to be invaded.

Yet the spirit of the nation expressed in Wordsworth's eagerness poems in the end prevailed and a century of peace and prosperity was the reward.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders issued to-day by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state:—

Strength.

No. 980 Pte. C. A. Bennett was enrolled on 27. 5. 18 and posted to "A" Coy., No. 2 Platoon.

Attached.

No. 335 Pte. C. M. McInnes, "A" Coy., is attached to the Engineer Company, dated 1. 5. 18. No. 324 Pte. G. M. Lakin, "A" Coy., is attached to the Engineer Company, dated 25. 5. 18.

Transfers.

No. 956 Pte. G. Domberton, "A" Coy., is transferred to the Artillery Coy., dated 25. 5. 18. No. 46 Gunner G. Fisher, is transferred to "A" Company, No. 3 Platoon, dated 27. 5. 18. No. 610 Pte. R. A. Ramsay is transferred from No. 7 to No. 8 Platoon, dated 30. 5. 18. The transfer of No. 335 Pte. C. M. McInnes to the Engineer Company, notified in Corps Order No. 5 dated 3. 5. 18, is cancelled.

Leave.

Spr. F. J. Ling, Eng. Coy., is granted 4 months' leave from 1. 6. 18, on Medical Certificate. Pte. T. G. Tarnabell, "D" Coy., is granted special leave of absence, from 1. 6. 18, to 1. 7. 18, on Medical Certificate. Pte. J. H. Wallace, "B" Coy., is granted 40 days' leave, from 1. 6. 18, on urgent business. Corporal E. C. Norris, Eng. Coy., is granted one month's leave, from 20. 5. 18. The leave notified in Corps Order No. 2 dated 19. 4. 18, is hereby cancelled.

Uniform.

It is to be distinctly understood by all ranks that no articles of uniform issued by the Corps are to be taken from the Corps tailor's shop. All new uniforms must be sent to the Corps Store by the Corps tailor and issue made through the Corps Issue Book, and every article must be signed for by the man receiving it.

Equipment Board.

The board will sit at Headquarters from 5.30 to 8.00 p.m. on the following dates:—Friday, 7th June; Tuesday, 18th June; Friday, 28th June.

Artillery Orders.

Orders for Artillery Company by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V.D., state:—Right and Left Half Companies. Duty at Belohers Battery as per roster and instructions posted in the Company's Office at Headquarters.

Engineer Orders.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell state:—31st May to 6th June:—

E. L. Manning nightly. Parades as per rosters posted at Headquarters. Engine Drivers at 6.45 p.m. Electricians at 7.00 p.m.

Officers next for duty:—Belohers, Captain Russell; Lyseum, Captain James; Stonecutters, 2nd Lieut. Brown.

Instructions for higher ratings and N.C.O.s and men of the Infantry Battalion attached for duty:—Class 1 at Belohers at 8.30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for all who have not passed the "Proficient" rate (1/1) exam. Class 2 at Belohers at 8.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays for all N.C.O.s and men of higher ratings, under Staff Sergeant Overdone and Parsons, E. E., and Sergeant Day, H. K. D. O. Class 3 at Lyseum 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, under Staff Sergeant Barclay and White, R. E., and Sergeant Williams, H. K. D. O.

The Office at Wellington Barracks having been vacated, all communications for O.C. Engineer Company should be addressed to Engineer Company Office, H. K. D. O. Headquarters, Public Tel. No. 2401, and Government Telephone.

Detail of Belohers Reliefs for June and detail of duties at Lyseum from 1st to 18th June inclusive are posted at Headquarters for information of all concerned.

Infantry Parades:—Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan state:—

"A" COMPANY.

Tuesday, 4th June.—5.30 p.m. No. 2 Platoon on Polo Ground. Hongkong residents will parade at the Cricket Club at 5.10 p.m.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY LIMITED.

The business of the manufacture and sale of ice and the business of cold storage hitherto carried on by the Hongkong Ice Company Limited has been acquired and will in future be carried on by the Dairy Farm Company Limited. Consequent upon such acquisition the name of the Dairy Farm Company Limited has been duly changed to "THE DAIRY FARM ICE AND COLD STORAGE COMPANY LIMITED" and its business will in future be carried on under the new name.

M. MANUK,

Secretary.

THE DAIRY FARM ICE & COLD STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

and proceed by tram to Causeway Bay. T. E. T. Dress, Drill order.

Wednesday, 5th June.—5.30 p.m. N.C.O.s of Nos. 3 and 4 Platoons (as detailed by Platoon Commanders) at Headquarters. T.E.T. 5.30 p.m. No. 1 Platoon on Polo Ground. Hongkong residents will parade at the Cricket Club at 5.10 p.m. and proceed by tram to Causeway Bay. T.E.T. Dress, Drill order.

Friday, 7th June.—5.30 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Platoons on Murray Parade Ground. T.E.T. Dress, Drill order.

Saturday, 15th June.—Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Platoons Judging Distance test. Time and place will be notified later.

"B" COMPANY.

Tuesday, 4th June.—5.30 p.m. Nos. 5, 6 and 7 Platoons on Polo Ground. Hongkong residents will parade at Cricket Club at 5.10 p.m. and proceed by tram to Causeway Bay. Open order movements. Dress, Drill order.

No. 8 Platoon at Kowloon Docks. Open order movements. Saturday, 22nd June.—Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8 Platoons, Judging Distance test. Time and place will be notified later.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Tuesday, 4th June.—7.10 a.m. No. 3 Gun Team at Headquarters. 5.10 p.m. Drill at Kowloon Docks. Nos. 1 and 2 guns only. Hongkong residents proceed by launch from Statue Pier at 4.30 p.m.

Wednesday, 5th June.—5.10 p.m. Nos. 4 and 5 Gun Teams at Headquarters.

Thursday, 6th June.—5.10 p.m. The following men will parade at Headquarters, Privates Field, Irvine, Lebrum, Logan, McKenna, and Stapleton.

Biggers' Class.—On Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.10 a.m. commencing on the 5th June. Pte. Brister and Stockhouses will attend; other members of the company who can, are advised to do so. Names of those joining the class should be sent without delay to O. Q. M. Sgt. Petley. The O. C. hopes that a large number will avail themselves of this opportunity.

MOUNTED SECTION.

Tuesday, 4th June.—5.30 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables. Dress, Drill order.

Thursday, 6th June.—5.30 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables. Dress, Drill order without rifles.

SIGNALLING SECTION.

Tuesday, 4th and Friday, 7th June.—5.30 p.m. Parade at Headquarters. Dress, Clean fatigues. Note.—Rifles (with bores free from oil) and sidearms are to be brought to the parade on 4th June.

STRETCHER BEARER SECTION.

Tuesday, 4th June.—5.15 p.m. Parade at Headquarters.

RECRUITS.

Tuesday, 4th and Friday, 7th June.—5.30 p.m. All units except "D" Company at Headquarters on 4th and on Murray Parade Ground on 7th June, under Sergeants Oxberry, Edmunds (Tuesday) and Meade (Friday), Dress, Drill order.

Cadet Orders.

Orders for Cadet Company by 2nd Lieut. J. E. W. Beard state:—Saturday, 1st June.—1.30 p.m. The full company will parade at Headquarters. Dress:—Shirts, Shorts and Toppers. N. Taylor.

Wednesday, 5th June.—5.00 p.m. Swimming. Fall in at Blake Pier.

Thursday, 6th June.—1.30 p.m. Parade. B. H. June.—1.30 p.m. No. 2 Platoon. Fall in at Headquarters to proceed to St. W.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

A Naval Rescue Party Blown up.

Heroic conduct on the part of members of crews of ships in the harbour at the time of the disastrous explosion at Halifax has been honoured by the King. It is announced that the Albert Medal in gold has been awarded to Lieut. Commander (Acting Commander) Tom Kenneth Triggs, R.N., and the Albert Medal to Able Seaman William Becker, O. No. J. 5841.

When the French steamer Mont Blanc, with a cargo of high explosive, collided with the Norwegian steamer Imo, and a fire broke out on the Mount Blanc Commander Triggs, of H.M.S. Highflyer, volunteered to go and see if anything could be done to save life.

He set off in the ship's whaler, and pulled towards the bows of the Imo, which was about 300 yards from the Mount Blanc. He was about to pass a line from her to the tug when the explosion occurred. Of the seven people in the whaler, Becker swam ashore, and the remainder, including Commander Triggs, perished.

The Albert Medal has also been awarded to Leading Seaman Thomas N. Davis, O. No. J. 18334 Dav., and Able Seaman Robert Stones, O. No. J. 29998 Dav., for another attempted rescue, after the explosion. The two men boarded the tug Marquash, which was on fire, and which carried a gun and ammunition.

They then both went forward to the burning part, and succeeded in getting to the ammunition, which was by this time badly scorched, pulled it away from the flames, and threw it overboard. They then broke open the door of the galley, which was on fire inside, to enable a pumping lighter to play her hose into it. They repeated the same thing with this cabin.

By their work they made it possible to subdue the fire and save further damage and loss of life. At any moment while they were on board the Marquash the ammunition might have exploded.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. O. Jenkin, C.B.E., state:—

Combined Parade. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Companies (except those on duty) will parade at Central Station at 5.45 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5. Uniform, caps with covers. The Sergeant Major will attend.

Joined.

Mounted Police.—Trooper 459 Hewitt. No. 2 Platoon.—P. O. 481 W. N. Mehal.

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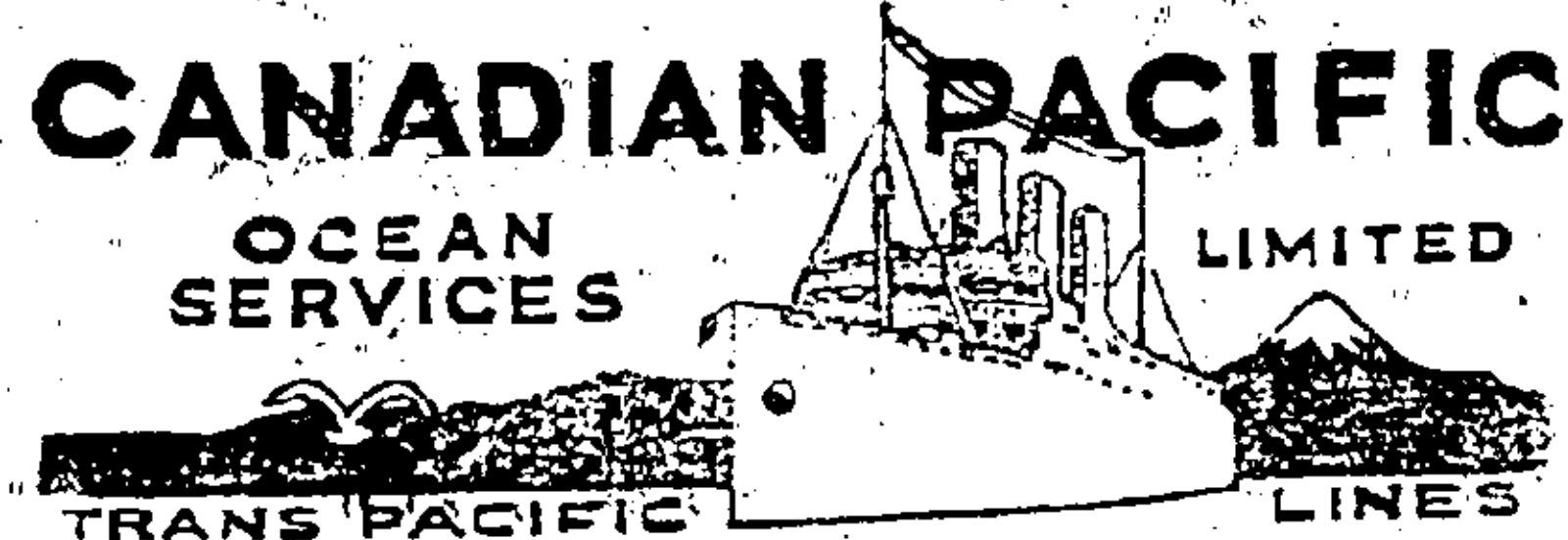
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	"Mishima Maru" T. 12,500	THURS. 27th June, at 11 a.m.
	"Nikko Maru" T. 16,000	JUNE, at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	"Aki Maru" T. 9,600	JUNE, at 11 a.m.
	"Aki Maru" T. 12,500	SAT. 20th, July at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	"Hwah-wu" T. 8,000	MONDAY, 3rd June.

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For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	Luchow	3rd June at noon.
AMOY & SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	4th June at 10 a.m.
WEIHAIWEI & TIENSIN	Kueichow	4th June at noon.
SWATOW & SINGAPORE	Linan	4th June at noon.
SHANGHAI	Suiyang	6th June at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Kailong	8th June at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO.
Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amidships; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are Landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

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Hongkong May 31, 1918.

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Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	To
Tijpanas	Java	In port	5th June	Java
Tijmanoeck	Java & M'ar	In port	6th June	Shanghai

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

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FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW AND RETURN.
(Occupying 9 to 10 days.)

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Haitan	A. E. Hodgins	31st May at noon.
Haihong	J. W. Evans	7th June at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

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General Managers.INDO-CHINA STEAM
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(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
HAIPHONG via Hoihow Taksang	Sat. 1st June at 7 a.m.	
SHANGHAI via Swatow Taksang	Sun. 2nd June at d'light.	
SHANGHAI	Tues. 4th June at d'light.	
TIENSIN	Sun. 9th June at d'light.	
MANILA	Wed. 12th June at 3 p.m.	

CALCUTTA LINE.—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai.
These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and carry a fully qualified Surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war.
Particulars on application.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.
Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAPHO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kadal, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Lahad Datta.

TIENSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin calling at Weihaiwei and Qinow.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

For Freight or passage, apply to

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Claim for Y. 1,185,000.

Mr. L. H. G. Walford, representative of Messrs. Leopold Walford (London) Ltd., through Mr. Hirst, of the Osaka Mar. Co., has filed a suit in the Fukuoka Chibo Saibanho against Mr. Tochigi Junzaku, proprietor of the Tochigi Shipyard, of Walmatsu claiming recovery of damages amounting to Y1,185,000. In the petition it is stated that about April or May of last year the London firm entrusted to Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Kobe, the business of buying a Japanese steamer on its behalf. In May of last year Messrs. Dodwell & Co. made a contract with the Tochigi Shipyard through the Wurai Shokai, of Shimonoeki, to buy for Y710,000 the Daitoku Maru, 1,700 tons, then under construction at the shipyard. The steamer was to have been delivered in July, but in view of the advance that later occurred in the price of tonnage the shipyard failed to fulfil the contract. According to the market value, the vessel is worth Y850 per ton, or Y1,445,000, as compared with the contract price of Y710,000.

N.Y.K.'s Profits.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has decided to pay for the last term (October to March) a dividend of 50 per cent., or the same as for the preceding term. The gross income amounted to Y86,875,000 and the total expenditure to Y39,704,000. Deducting amounts set aside as reserves and for other purposes, including Y11,000,000 as war profits tax, the next profit amounted to Y33,628,000. Particulars of the accounts are as follows:

	Yen.
Gross income	86,875,000
Gross expenditure	39,704,736
Reserve for depreciation of vessels	1,260,401
Reserve for shipping insurance	784,132
Reserve for large shipping repairs	311,029
Reserve for depreciation of buildings	132,839
Japanese and Foreign War Profits Tax	11,153,540
Net profit	33,628,329
Brought forward	684,513
Total	34,312,842

To Reserves 1,68,416
War risk security money and special reserves for building new steamers 10,000,000
Special reserve for purchase of vessels 1,500,000
Special reserve 500,000
Reserves for equalizing dividends 7,000,000
Bonus for Directors and Auditors 375,000
Dividend 10 per cent. 1,879,680
Extra Dividend, 40 per cent. 7,518,720
Fund for encouraging the training of seamen 350,000
Employees' Pension fund 2,500,000
Carried forward 1,008,026
The above statement of accounts is to be submitted for formal approval to a general meeting of shareholders called for May 30 in Tokyo.

"Skipper's £7,000 A Year.
"Some Grimsby skippers this year have paid income tax on £6,000 to £7,000 and over," remarked Mr. Tickler, M.P., for Grimsby, when referring to the prosperity of the fishing industry. "There have been cases where as much as £500 has been earned in a fortnight." The skipper, of course, gets £10 "out of every £100 made on a trip," and with the fixed price for fish, locally known as "famine prices," earnings are not likely to diminish. The wives of skippers wear the best furs and the finest diamonds, and they have nest eggs in the shape of War Bonds. "One trawler owner has judged prospects to be so favourable that he has bought up fishing vessels all along the coast, and has at least £300,000 invested in this kind of craft. Despite the dangers of U-boats, there is no shortage of men for the trawlers, and this is not surprising, having regard to the handsome remuneration. Taken all in all, Grimsby market has a better supply of fish than two years ago. While it is true that North Sea trawlers are making record earnings as the result of the present high prices of fish, and that deckhands are receiving almost treble pre-war rates, while skippers and mates, who are paid a percentage on the value of the catch, are commonly earning four-figure incomes, there is the other side to this question. "I wouldn't go trawling for a pound an hour these days," declared a prominent Grimsby owner.

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EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 7.)
A CAPTURED GERMAN.

London, May 29.
A special message from Cork gives details of the arrest of the man landed from a German submarine who is now in the Tower. It appears he was seen by a fisherman on 13th April waving a handkerchief on the barren inlet off the coast of Clare. He was rowed ashore and said he was a survivor of a torpedoed ship. Investigation by the coast guards proved the story to be untrue. Much English silver money was found in his possession. Meanwhile a wrecked collapsible boat was found a mile down the coast. It is believed the man rowed ashore in the darkness, landed on the inlet in mistake, endeavoured to destroy the boat found in the morning and marooned himself.

TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

London, May 29.
In the House of Lords, Lord Newton strenuously asserted that there was not the slightest vestige of truth in the newspaper allegations that War Office inactivity had resulted in worse treatment being accorded to British war prisoners than to others. No Government had been more solicitous for its prisoners' welfare. He opined that Britishers were now treated better than others.

Lord Curzon warned against undue expectation of an immediate rush of exchanged war prisoners.

CONTROL OF LABOUR.

London, May 29.
The "Daily Chronicle" says that the Government expect all munition workers in future to volunteer for war work anywhere in the country. Unreasonable refusal will seriously prejudice their right to exemption from army service. The War Cabinet consider they must now be absolutely free to divert labour where it can be most advantageously employed.

DEVELOPMENTS IN MANCHURIA.

Peking, May 29.
Upward of a thousand border Chinese have joined the Cossack leader Semionoff who is gaining strength and popularity, dispersing his opponents and establishing a measure of order instead of chaos.
A Moscow telegram says that the Government has addressed a note to China complaining of the "criminal activity of the brigand band under Semionoff sheltering in Manchuria" and asking permission to send Soviet troops to act with Chinese regulars against Semionoff.

HUGE RUSSIAN FIRE.

Moscow, May 29.
A fire broke out in a munition train at Kazan station and spread to many houses. It lasted all day and seven warehouses full of merchandise and 350 trucks were destroyed. The damage is thirty million roubles.

A WAR DISEASE.

Copenhagen, May 29.
Thousands of people in Sweden are stricken with a mysterious malady akin to drowsy which is attributed to insufficient food.

BYE-ELECTION RESULT.

London, May 29.
The Wansbeck bye-election resulted as follows:—Mr. B. Mason (Coalitionist) 8814, Mr. Edwards (Miners' candidate) 5576.

ROYAL VISIT TO TEXTILE WORKERS.

London, May 29.
Their Majesties have arrived at Bradford on a three days tour of the textile centres.

BOMBARDMENT OF PARIS.

Paris, May 29.
The long range bombardment continued this morning. Shells larger than previously suggest that new guns are being used.

LINER CAPSIZES.

Mishap to the St. Paul.

The American liner St. Paul suddenly capsized while entering the slip at her pier at the foot of West 21st Street, North River, early this afternoon, says the New York Evening Post of April 27. It was an unusual marine accident inasmuch as the vessel had not seemed to be in difficulties before she went over on her side. Several men were reported to have been injured, and at least four were treated by an ambulance surgeon. The vessel apparently was not seriously damaged, although it will take some time to raise her. It is supposed that her sea cocks had been left open, and that the water entered through the valves.

There were no passengers on board the liner, but in addition to the crew a number of workmen were on the vessel, which had just been released from a dry dock in Brooklyn. The St. Paul was entering her North River berth when she began to list, going over slowly until she rested on her port side against the pier. The military authorities immediately took charge of the vessel, and also blocked out a zone on the waterfront to keep curiosity seekers away from the place.

Meantime a call had been sent out for the police and for ambulances. It was said that when the vessel began to go over some of the workmen jumped overboard, or else to the pier and to lighters near by, and one report said that a man had been drowned. Dr. Nelson, of New York Hospital, treated four men, William Gray and Frank Greene, both detectives; Joseph Ascareno and Pietro Spoto, boiler scrappers. No one was seriously hurt, and all went home.

As a precautionary measure Engine Company 3 and Truck 12 were sent to the scene in case of fire, but their services were not required. Several of the firemen said they had been told that two men had been drowned, and a third had been injured in crawling through a port hole. A number of men who jumped overboard were slightly injured. They were picked up by crews of the tugs which accompanied the St. Paul from Brooklyn.

Tennis Match Postponed.

It is with regret that the Open Championship singles match fixed for to-day has had to be postponed, but the ground is far too sodden for so important a match. It is hoped to play this match next Wednesday, but if that is not possible then on Thursday or Friday.

RACE PONIES.

Some Comments on Their Names.

The following contributed article appears in the N. O. Daily News:—

Every public school boy in England is encouraged to know his "Widener" from beginning to end but no one ever heard of a form master who set his pupils to the study of Ruff's Guide. Yet there is a vast amount of polite learning and entertainment to be found in such a study, the fruit of which is likely to abide long after the figures of batting and bowling averages have faded from the memory. Even the newspaper lists of racehorses entered at any meeting that is held in England will supply instances of pretty wit, of elegant literary taste or of interesting historical allusion.

Examples crowd pleasantly upon the memory of an old racing man. Very often a name is happily designed to indicate in neat portmanteau fashion an animal's pedigree: thus "Saltpetre" could be the offspring of none other than "St. Simon" and "Billow"; while "Sceptre" could be the daughter, only of the Royal "Perseus" and "Ornament." Sometimes not a horse's descent only but his future also can be divined from his name: thus "Cicero" and "Ladas" were not names that a man of letters like Lord Roebury would give to common cattle, and a most delightful tip was offered to the intelligent when a Duke of Portland more than two centuries after the Revolution at last bestowed upon a colt the great name of "William the Third." People who knew their Macaulay were quick to guess that a Bentinck would not give that name to anything that could fail to bear it worthily. Subsequent events proved that they were right.

Here in Shanghai the pedigrees of our ponies are wrapped in mystery and there are few traditions to restrict an owner in his choice of names. The whole of language, literature, history and geography is, therefore, open to the name-giver without limit or hindrance beyond the right of the Stewards to veto the offensive or undignified. So vast is the realm of choice thus offered that it is a pity to see many of our owners huddling into uninteresting corners and inflicting upon the public a wearisome series of "fields," "woods," "lights," "sands," "chiefs," "boys" and such like, often with prefixes of a meaningless or even banal sort. Sometimes it must be owned, a good name emerges by happy chance from a dull series. "Castledown" is an admirable name, recalling as it does the house of Emond and its peerless Trix. "Castledown" also has a high sound, worthy of the achievements of the wonderful pony that bears the name. The duplication of the prefix "Castle" was perhaps excusable but there is no apparent reason why "Oak" should have been similarly honoured and it is to be hoped that the precedent will not be followed with "Penny," "Tatters" or "Loo."

Another kind of series is much in vogue and is certainly preferable to the wooden system of prefix and suffix. This is the naming of all ponies belonging to one stable after such things as rivers, birds, newspapers, suburbs of Edinburgh, places near London, or famous country houses. These often furnish agreeable and dignified names, but the ease with which this sort of choice is made—a child could manage it—cannot give an owner anything like the pleasure that comes from a happy thought. Two important stables, and two only, can at present be trusted to give their animals good names. "Gladiator," "Pretender" and "Marlborough" are all excellent, and "John Peel" seems to have the knack of finding uniformly admirable names in endless variety. He is fortunate even in ponies which he buys ready-named, for nothing could be better than "Black Diamond."

The writer of these lines appeals to owners to abandon once and for all the wooden type of name. If the principle of the series must for convenience sake be retained let the series be one of some distinction and with some suggestion of mentality about it. The "initial letter" idea at once occurs to the mind as suitable to Shanghai. Intending name-givers might do worse than study a list of famous greyhounds and christen their ponies by double names headed with their own initials after the manner of Messrs. Fawcett's "Fearless Footsteps" and "Fortune's Favourite" or Mr. Hill Wood's "Heavy Weapons."

A LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Discussion in the House of Laymen.

The House of Laymen for the Province of Canterbury met recently at the Church House, Westminster, when the question of the formation of a League of Nations was discussed.

Lord Farmoor, who presided, moved a resolution declaring that Christianity requires the recognition of the principle of the League of Nations as a safeguard against aggressive wars. He said he did not believe there would be any difficulty in the practical application of the idea of a League of Nations provided the nations interested were prepared for a league of this character. Christianity taught a common brotherhood under a common Father, and inculcated the spirit of reconciliation and peace. It was therefore our duty to enunciate the spirit of reconciliation and peace even towards those who had offended us very vitally and deeply.

Chancellor P. V. Smith seconded the resolution.

Mr. T. W. E. Inskip, K.O., said that if such a resolution was passed it would commit the organised representatives of Christianity to an expression of opinion which was based on no sure foundation. It was suggested that such a league should be founded on broad and universal principles of right and justice. But how were they to define those principles? Were they to accept, for instance, Trotsky's ideas of right and justice? What was wanted at present was to secure a guarantee of the recognition of the sanctity of declarations and treaties.

Mr. Athelstan Riley thought a League of Nations could not be defended on principle and could not be worked out in practice, and Colonel Sir Robert Williams, M.P., suggested that the motion should be amended so as to read: "That Christianity presupposes the brotherhood of men, and this House would welcome any steps which would hasten that brotherhood becoming a reality." This was seconded by Mr. S. Gedge and was accepted by Lord Farmoor.

Lord Hugh Cecil, M.P., who expressed himself as being entirely in sympathy with the purpose of the resolution, said that if a League of Nations was to be of any service it must be something much more important than a league of a diplomatic character. For the last 20 years we had had in operation diplomatic agencies and organisations which had not been at all ineffective in their endeavours to make for European peace. The European Concert might very well have been the beginning of a League of Nations, but it had not ultimately been successful in preventing war. It was not strong enough for the purpose. What was wanted was to substitute the general world-wide patriotism of the whole of oceanic Christendom for the older patriotism.

After further discussion, in the course of which Lord Hugh Cecil suggested the introduction of the words "such as a League of Nations," the House agreed to the resolution in the amended form proposed by Sir Robert Williams.

Kimberley Diamonds.

Despatches from Kimberley disclose another romance of the diamond fields. Two lucky diggers, working on claims at Gong Gong, have discovered diamonds to the total value of nearly £10,000 sterling, several of the stones being over 70 carats. A chicken reared in the locality was found, on being killed, to have a half carat stone in its crop.

ion of mentality about it. The "initial letter" idea at once occurs to the mind as suitable to Shanghai. Intending name-givers might do worse than study a list of famous greyhounds and christen their ponies by double names headed with their own initials after the manner of Messrs. Fawcett's "Fearless Footsteps" and "Fortune's Favourite" or Mr. Hill Wood's "Heavy Weapons."

STANDARD SHIPS.

Sir G. Carter's Review of Results.

At the annual meeting of the Institution of Naval Architects, held at the Society of Arts, Lord Durham, who presided, said that he wished the Government would issue stringent orders that precautions against mine and torpedo explosions must be enforced. Every precaution must be taken to avoid loss of human life or ships by any possible negligence. He was afraid that on some occasions our mercantile marine were so brave and recklessly gallant that they ran unnecessary risks. In war they must eliminate useless risks and waste. Referring to the shipbuilding position Lord Durham said he would not disguise his opinion that the disquieting and unsatisfactory situation was attributable in a considerable degree to the paralysing influence which seemed inseparable from Government control of great national industries. Could not Government protection and assistance be given, while leaving freedom to the industries to run without Government interference? If there must be control, let it be by shipbuilders themselves, if they were best able to devise means of speeding up the work they had spent their lives in perfecting.

As regards standard ships, Lord Durham said that the infamous submarine warfare probably forced the Government to adopt a measure which in ordinary circumstances would not have a great body of opinion behind it. It would be a fatal mistake to deprive the architects of the exorcism of their inventive genius and to limit their work by certain standards.

Sir George Carter, a member of the Advisory Shipbuilding Council to the Admiralty, in a paper on "Standard Cargo Ships" said there had undoubtedly been delay in the production of standard ships, in spite of all the arrangements made to expedite their construction, the chief element being shortage of steel. If each builder had been allowed to proceed with his own type or types of ships, this delay would have been greater, as, in addition to not getting the amount of steel required, the multitudinous sections necessary would have caused great delay in rolling at the steel mills, whose output was much increased by the simplification of sections in the standard ships. It was not sufficient to compare the rate of production of standard ships with the pre-war rate. The limited supply of steel and other adverse conditions must be taken into account.

The argument that delay was caused by asking builders to construct a standard ship differing only slightly from their own type might have some justification in regard to one ship, but not to repeat ships. In one yard a standard ship was completed in a little over six months, although the yard had never built a similar ship before. A second similar ship was also completed in practically the same time. In another yard a ship was completed, coaled, and sailed 18 days after launching. It might be claimed that, as a war emergency measure, the policy of building standard ships was being justified, and would in the future be justified to a much greater extent.

The majority of the findings of the Institution's Committee on the effect of mine and torpedo explosions had been embodied in the standard ships, and certain precautions were taken to render the viability of the ships as small as possible. Consideration was given to their successful commercial use after the war. As to "unsinkable" ships, any ship could be sunk provided she received a sufficient amount of damage. Many designs of such "unsinkables" were submitted to the Advisory Committee. One objection, however, was common to all such types of vessels; in every case they required the expenditure of more steel per ton of deadweight carried. At the time the Advisory Committee was formed steel was extremely scarce, and, apart from this, all provisions for safety must complicate the cargo arrangements.

Sir G. Carter said that what he hoped would be done in all shipyards had already been done in some—the completion of the ships in six months. It was not generally known that not more than 65 per cent. of the steel required for standard ships was available for months after the building of the ship had started.

THEATRE ROYAL.

The Frawley Company in "A House of Glass."

In the Theatre Royal last night, before a fairly large and a very appreciative audience, the Frawley Company again presented Max Martin's four act drama entitled "A House of Glass." This is an extremely well-constructed and powerful play, one of the best of the Frawley repertoire—having as its main theme the exposition of a very pointed little story regarding the advisability of being charitable in one's judgments and merciful towards those with whom it is in our power to deal harshly if we will. The play was again most ably presented, the whole cast giving an excellent interpretation of their respective parts.

To-night, by request, the Company will present "The Boomerang," a clever and entertaining comedy.

That good results in standardisation of ships had been attained would be generally conceded, and the appointment of a committee to consider the general standardisation of marine engines was a sign that they might expect standardisation to play a definite part in the future. In post-war work they would have to consider everything making for cheapness and rapidity of production, and standardisation would not be the least among such considerations.

Sir Alan Anderson, Navy Controller, said that interference with private trade should be reduced, and the best possible way of controlling business was to let people control themselves. The difficulty throughout had been that the facts had not been known. He had held strongly that they should be, and he was glad that that view was adopted.

"I am advised by competent shipbuilders," Sir A. Anderson proceeded, "that the output of the shipyards in this country in 1917 has been an absolute record. It has not been a record of merchant ships, but when you take into account the other part of the work, such as warships, auxiliary craft, and the very large increase in essential repairs, it has been a record. That is very satisfactory from one point of view, but I am interested in getting the ships we need. From that point of view I am not sure that it is satisfactory to know that the yards produced more effort than ever before. It still falls short of what we want. Instead of getting rid of your difficulty by getting rid of someone, you have got to bring a well-organised and healthy industry up above a record-breaking period to a period still more record-breaking, and that is a big operation."

Sir Eustace d'Eyncourt, Chief Constructor to the Admiralty, said that the first result of standardisation was delay, and we were suffering from that to a great extent now. The work had not got into its stride yet and it would not be realised for some time how much was owed to the Shipping Controller and to the Advisory Committee for their work. It was only really beginning to bear fruit now and it would continue progressively to improve.

Lord Brassey said that the less interference by the Government in the shipbuilding yards the better for the industry.

Mr. J. W. Isherwood did not agree that good results had been obtained from standardisation. We had experienced a most appalling failure, clearly shown by our shipbuilding output of January and February. There were 12 standard types, excluding coaster types, and standardisation was a misnomer. Had the builders been allowed to build their own types, with which they were familiar, there would have been no disorganisation, but friendly emulation and enthusiastic co-operation. In view of the number of ships sunk last year, the opponents of "unsinkable" ships were assuming a grave responsibility.

Sir G. Carter said that what he hoped would be done in all shipyards had already been done in some—the completion of the ships in six months. It was not generally known that not more than 65 per cent. of the steel required for standard ships was available for months after the building of the ship had started.

ENEMY ACTIVITY IN SIBERIA.

Austrians Serving Red Guards' Guns.

Harbin, May 21.—Col. Simionov has issued a communique, dated from station Birki, May 19, as follows:—

On the night of the 28th, part of our forces which had already crossed the left bank of the river Onon, made a night attack on the enemy hidden at siding No. 110, where was concentrated the main force of the enemy, preparatory to making attack upon us in the morning. Notwithstanding the enemy's numerical superiority, we caused great havoc in the Bolshevik ranks. Three whole trains, one filled with sailors, were shelled by our artillery and six carriages destroyed.

One Company of infantry attacked an enemy battery and bayoneted the Austrian gunners. Small groups of our men valiantly fought all day long against the sailors, Austrians and Red Guards, and when they were ordered to withdraw to the right bank of the Onon, the enemy was so paralysed that he neglected to occupy Olvian station.

Our losses in killed and wounded were five officers and 35 men. We took prisoner one officer and four men of the Omak International Detachment. The latter state that their detachment is 700 strong and consists principally of Austrians.

We have also engaged 700 sailors, 300 prisoners of war and 1,500 Red Guards, who have eight 6-inch guns and four field guns.

The Bolsheviks are not enthusiastic, and the spirits of the men are being kept up by a sailor from Petrograd, who has been specially sent for that purpose. Our detachment was commanded by General Taube. The enemy had not sufficient ammunition, only 120 rounds having been served out previously.

Col. Simionov, with his staff, arrived in Harbin last night by special train.

The reason for Admiral Kolchak's rapid return from Manchuria is that Col. Simionov was, quite rightly, not admitted any interference in the military operations in Trans-Baikalia, where he has established a Provisional Government and occupied territory. This attempted meddling on the part of certain Russians holding positions in the Railway area undoubtedly hampers Col. Simionov. Petty jealousies must be discontinued because they are rendering more difficult the success of the movement.

Yesterday there was a gigantic demonstration in Vladivostok against the Bolsheviks, all organisations, political parties and societies taking part.

A telegram from China states that a Commissary on the Bolshevik staff has been killed by the military organisation.

An affray has taken place in the Medakow suburb of Harbin between Russian and Chinese police. The latter arrested a Russian civilian, who called for help. The Russian police on arrival endeavoured to make the Chinese take the Russian to their police station. As the parties were unable to understand each other a row ensued. The Russian, surrounded by Chinese and a threatening crowd, fired his revolver into the air, whereupon he was attacked by a Chinese policeman and in self-protection killed the Chinese, another bullet wounding a woman and a child in the crowd. The firing attracted the attention of a Chinese officer, who went to the assistance of the soldiers and stopped the affray. The heads of the Russian and Chinese police arrived on the scene and, after investigating the affair, allowed the Russian to go free. It is evident that the cause of the trouble was the inability of the parties to understand each other's language.

Later.
The local Red Cross Society is organising the despatch of a hospital train to the Trans-Baikal front.

The Russian policeman who killed a Chinese soldier has been arrested and charged with manslaughter.—S. O. Daily News.

*"The Cigarette
with the
Pedigree"*



C. W. BECKWITH,
Commander R.N.
Harbour Master & Co., & Co., & Co.
Harbour Department,
Hongkong, 25th May, 1918.

ASAHI BEER
GRAND PRIZE
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ASAHI BEER
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SOLE AGENTS
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of Public Business on MONDAY the 3rd June.
 Hongkong, 20th May, 1918.

The importation into the Commonwealth of Australia of tea, other than that grown or produced in British Possessions is prohibited, unless the consent in writing of the Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Customs has been first obtained.

WEDNESDAY, 8th Jun
Shanghai and North China—8th
2 p.m.

Street, in the City of
Hongkong.

Booking at MOUTRIE'S.

BRITISH GAZETTE NO. 446.
ETC., ETC.

1858 | The Anchoneer.
HONGKONG, May 27th, 1918.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1918.